

Please amend the claims as indicated:

1. (currently amended) An electronic candle comprising an open ended housing body with at least one battery compartment configured for containing at least one battery therein, each of said batteries having respective positive and negative terminals on the opposite ends thereof; wherein said battery compartment is provided with conductive end plates, with said batteries being in electrical contact with one of said plates and wherein said electronic candle comprises means for causing batteries, contained in the battery compartment, to move into electrical contact with the other of said plates to complete a circuit and out of said contact to break the circuit; said candle further comprising a light source, having candle flicker emulation circuitry electrically powered by such completed circuit to provide light from the electric candle, wherein said light source is positioned to be physically separated from said batteries by one of said end plates.

2. (original) The electronic candle of claim 1, wherein the housing of cylindrical candle comprises a candle emulating form.

3. (currently amended) An electronic candle comprising an open ended housing body with at least one battery compartment configured for containing at least one battery therein, each of said batteries having respective positive and negative terminals on the opposite ends thereof; wherein said battery compartment is provided with conductive end plates, with said batteries being in electrical contact with one of said plates and wherein said electronic candle comprises means for causing batteries, contained in the battery compartment, to move into

electrical contact with the other of said plates to complete a circuit and out of said contact to break the circuit; said candle further comprising a light source, having candle flicker emulation circuitry electrically powered by such completed circuit to provide light from the electric candle, ~~The electronic candle of claim 1 wherein~~ wherein said housing supports said light source and wherein translucent decorative enclosure means are integrated with the housing body to enclose the light source therewithin.

4. (original) The electronic candle of claim 1, wherein said electronic candle comprises lockable means for preventing removal of said plates from said housing thereby blocking access to said batteries for removal.

5. (original) The electronic candle of claim 1 wherein said candle comprises indicia displaying means for removably displaying printed indicia through a removable transparent protective element.

6. (original) The electronic candle of claim 1 wherein said candle further comprises openable receptacle means for enclosed placement of mementos.

7. (original) The electronic candle of claim 1, wherein at least one of said plates comprises means for ensuring proper terminal placement of said batteries.

8. (currently amended) An electronic candle comprising an open ended housing body with at least one battery compartment configured for containing at least one battery therein, each of said batteries having respective positive and negative terminals on the opposite ends thereof; wherein said battery compartment is provided with conductive end plates, with said batteries being in electrical contact with one of said plates and wherein said electronic candle comprises means for causing batteries,

contained in the battery compartment, to move into
electrical contact with the other of said plates to
complete a circuit and out of said contact to break the
circuit; said candle further comprising a light source,
having candle flicker emulation circuitry electrically
powered by such completed circuit to provide light from the
electric candle, wherein at least one of said plates
comprises means for ensuring proper terminal placement of
said batteries~~The electronic candle of claim 7, wherein~~
said positive terminal of the battery comprises an
extending nipple member and said negative terminal
comprises a substantially flat element and wherein said
means for ensuring proper terminal placement of said
batteries comprise protrusion elements integrated with one
of said plates and positioned offset from contact with a
battery nipple member, said protrusion having an extension
distance less than that of said nipple member, whereby said
positive terminal is able to make conductive contact with
said plate having said protrusion elements and said
negative terminal is not able to make such conductive
contact.

9. (new) An electronic candle comprising a light source, an open ended housing body with at least one battery compartment configured for containing a plurality of batteries therein, adjacent said light source, with each of said batteries having respective positive and negative terminals on the opposite ends thereof; wherein said battery compartment is provided with a conductive end element for electrical contact with at least one of said positive and negative terminals respectively distal to said light source, and a conductive end element for electrical contact with the other of said positive and negative

terminals and electrical contact with said light source and wherein said housing comprises means for preventing battery terminals adjacent said light source from direct physical contact with said light source and wherein said electronic candle housing comprises a moveable end cap element for closing said open housing positioned adjacent to the conductive end element distal to the light source, with movement of the end cap element causing at least one of the batteries, contained in the battery compartment, adjacent to the light source to be placed into electrical contact with the light source to complete a circuit and wherein reverse movement of the end cap element causes breakage of the electrical contact to break the circuit; said light source, having candle flicker emulation circuitry electrically powered by said completed circuit to provide candle flicker emulation light from the light source and the electric candle.

10. (new) The electronic candle of claim 9 wherein the terminals of batteries adjacent said light source are not in longitudinal alignment with said light source.

11. (new) The electronic candle of claim 9 wherein the batteries are arranged in any of series, parallel and combined series and parallel, electrical configuration.